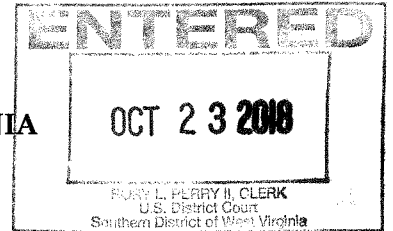


IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA



IN RE

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL,

Petitioner,

v.

Misc. No.: 2:18-MC-178

LEE F. BENFORD, a member of  
The West Virginia State Bar,

Respondent.

**ATTORNEY REMOVAL ORDER**

This Court has been notified by the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia that the license to practice law in the State of West Virginia of **Lee F. Benford** has been annulled by Order entered on October 4, 2018, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

**IT IS ORDERED** that the District Court records be amended to reflect the disciplinary action and that **Lee F. Benford** is barred from appearances in this Court.

The Clerk is further **ORDERED** to remove **Lee F. Benford** from the list of attorneys admitted to practice in the District Court.

The Clerk is directed to send a certified copy of this order to **Lee F. Benford** at his last known address of P. O. Box 586, Ripley, West Virginia 25271, to each divisional Clerk's Office in this District, and the Attorney Admission Coordinator.

ENTER:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "T. Johnston", written over a horizontal line.

THOMAS E. JOHNSTON, CHIEF JUDGE

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

At a Regular Term of the Supreme Court of Appeals, continued and held at Charleston, Kanawha County, on October 4, 2018, the following order was made and entered:

Office of Disciplinary Counsel,  
Petitioner

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OCT 15 2018

vs.) No. 18-0476

Lee F. Benford, a member of  
The West Virginia State Bar,  
Respondent

OFFICE OF  
DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

**ORDER**

On June 27, 2018, the petitioner, Office of Disciplinary Counsel, by Joanne M. Vella Kirby, Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel, filed a petition seeking annulment of the law license in the State of West Virginia of the respondent, Lee F. Benford, pursuant to Rule 3.25, Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure and the formal affidavit, under seal, of the respondent consenting to voluntary disbarment.

Upon consideration and review of the petition seeking annulment, the Court is of the opinion to and does hereby grant the petition. It is therefore ordered that the license to practice law in the State of West Virginia of the respondent, Lee F. Benford, shall be, and it hereby is, **annulled**.

Justice Allen H. Loughry II suspended and therefore not participating. Justice Paul T. Farrell sitting by temporary assignment.

A True Copy

Attest: /s/ Edythe Nash Gaiser  
Clerk of Court

